# OWASCO LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, INC.

## RESOLUTION

A meeting of the Members of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, Inc. was convened on December 17, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. at City of Auburn Council Chambers, 24 South Street, Auburn, NY 13021 and the following resolution was duly offered and seconded to wit:

## Resolution No. 01-22

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE OWASCO LAKE WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, INC., CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY
PRESENTED HEREIN AND TO CREATE A GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE TO
UPHOLD THE POLICY AND ADVISE AN EMPLOYEE, DIRECTOR, OR
MEMBER WHO APPEARS TO HAVE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST

MOTION BY: Edward Wagner

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 1411 of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law ("N-PCL", and hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), and a Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate") filed with the New York Secretary of State on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2011, the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, Inc. (the "Corporation") has been established as a not-for-profit, local development corporation to relieve and reduce unemployment, promote and provide for additional and maximum employment, improve and maintain job opportunities, instructing or training individuals to improve or develop their capabilities for such jobs, carrying on scientific research for the purpose of aiding a community or geographical area by attracting new industry to the community or area or by encouraging the development of, or retention of, an industry in the community or area, lessening the burdens of government and acting in the public interest, including undertaking programs and activities in furtherance of managing, monitoring and protecting the water resources of Owasco Lake and the water resources within the Owasco Lake Watershed for the well-being and benefit of the residents of the County; and

WHEREAS, The Corporation is a designated Local Authority under the Authorities Budget Office (ABO) of New York State and seeks to meet the ethics and transparency requirements of that designation

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Members of the Corporation that the Members will collectively act as the Governance Committee, Uphold the Conflict of

Interest Policy, and advise an employee, director, or member who appears to have a conflict of interest.

OWASCO LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, INC., CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY (All Board Members and employees should be provided with this Conflict of Interest Policy upon commencement of employment or appointment and required to acknowledge that they have read, understand and are in compliance with the terms of the policy. Board members and employees should review on an ongoing basis circumstances that constitute a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest, abide by this policy and seek guidance when necessary and appropriate. This policy is intended to supplement, but not replace, any applicable state and federal laws governing conflicts of interest applicable to public authorities):

Conflicts of Interest: A conflict of interest is a situation in which the financial, familial, or personal interests of a director or employee come into actual or perceived conflict with their duties and responsibilities with the Authority. Perceived conflicts of interest are situations where there is the appearance that a board member and/or employee can personally benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity, or where a board member or employee may be influenced to act in a manner that does not represent the best interests of the authority. The perception of a conflict may occur if circumstances would suggest to a reasonable person that a board member may have a conflict. The appearance of a conflict and an actual conflict should be treated in the same manner for the purposes of this Policy. Board members and employees must conduct themselves at all times in a manner that avoids any appearance that they can be improperly or unduly influenced, that they could be affected by the position of or relationship with any other party, or that they are acting in violation of their public trust. While it is not possible to describe or anticipate all the circumstances that might involve a conflict of interest, a conflict of interest typically arises whenever a director or employee has or will have:

- A financial or personal interest in any person, firm, corporation or association which has or will have a transaction, agreement or any otherarrangement in which the authority participates.
- The ability to use his or her position, confidential information or the assetsof the authority, to his or her personal advantage.
- Solicited or accepted a gift of any amount under circumstances in which itcould reasonably be inferred that the gift was intended to influence him/her,or could reasonably be expected to influence him/her, in the performanceof his/her official duties or was intended as a reward for any action on his/herpart.
- Any other circumstance that may or appear to make it difficult for the boardmember or employee to exercise independent judgment and properly exercise his or her official duties.

Outside Employment of Authority's Employees: No employee may engage in outside employment if such employment interferes with his/her ability to properly exercise his or her official duties with the authority.

#### **PROCEDURES**

**Duty to Disclose:** All material facts related to the conflicts of interest (including the nature of the interest and information about the conflicting transaction) shall be disclosed in good faith and in writing to the Governance Committee and/or the Ethics Officer. Such written disclosure shall be made part of the official record of the proceedings of the authority.

**Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists:** The Governance Committee and/or Ethics Officer shall advise the individual who appears to have a conflict of interest how to proceed. The Governance Committee and/or Ethics Officer should seek guidance from counsel or New York State agencies, such as the Authorities Budget Office, State Inspector General or the Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE) when dealing with cases where they are unsure of what to do.

Recusal and Abstention: No board member or employee may participate in any decision or take any official action with respect to any matter requiring the exercise of discretion, including discussing the matter and voting, when he or she knows or has reason to know that the action could confer a direct or indirect financial or material benefit on himself or herself, a relative, or any organization in which he or she is deemed to have an interest. Board members and employees must recuse themselves from deliberations, votes, or internal discussion on matters relating to any organization, entity or individual where their impartiality in the deliberation or vote might be reasonably questioned, and are prohibited from attempting to influence other board members or employees in the deliberation and voting on the matter.

**Records of Conflicts of Interest:** The minutes of the authority's meetings during which a perceived or actual conflict of interest is disclosed or discussed shall reflect the name of the interested person, the nature of the conflict, and a description of how the conflict was resolved.

**Reporting of Violations:** Board members and employees should promptly report any violations of this policy to his or her supervisor, or to the public authority's ethics officer, general counsel or human resources representative in accordance with the authority's Whistleblower Policy and Procedures.

**Penalties:** Any director or employee that fails to comply with this policy may be penalized in the manner provided for in law, rules or regulations.

SECOND BY: alex myriss Clerk

Dated: December 17, 2019

Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, Inc.

Hon. Aileen McNabb Coleman, Cayuga County Legislator

Member, ex officio

Hon. Edward Wagner, Supervisor, Town of Owasco

Member, ex officio

Debra McCormick, Councilor, City of Auburn

Member, ex officio

#### **CERTIFICATION**

## STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF CAYUGA

I, Debra McCormick, the undersigned, Secretary of the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council, Inc. (the "Corporation"), do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing extract of the minutes of the meeting of the Members of the Corporation, including the Resolution contained therein, held on <u>December 17, 2019</u>, with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copy of said original and of such Resolution set forth therein and of the whole of said original so far as the same relates to the subject matters therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that (A) all members had due notice of said meeting; (B) said meeting was in all respects duly held; (C) pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (the "Open Meetings Law:"), said meeting was open to the general public, and due notice of the time and place of said meeting was duly given in accordance with such Open Meetings law; and (D) there was a quorum of the members present throughout said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, as of the date hereof, the attached Resolution is in full force and effect and has not been amended, repealed or rescinded.

Secretary